



Cunene tribes

ANGOLA



12 days

21 August - 01 September 2024

English speaking tour leader



The 'unforgettable' of the trip:

- The encounters with the **Muila, Tua, Hakaona, Muhimba, Cuis, Gambue, Dimba, Mucubal tribes**
- The **oases of Curoca and Arco**, where you can admire the welwitshia mirabilis
- The **Iona Park** with the mysterious Vanessa wreck
- The majestic dunes jutting into the ocean at **Baia dos Tigres**
- The Portuguese colonial architecture of **Namibe** and **Tombwa**
- **Luanda**, with its metropolitan street-art



Kanaga Africa Tours - info@kanaga-at.com
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Day 1 - Wednesday 21 August

Outward Flight/Luanda (LAD)

Overnight flight to Luanda.

Day 2 - Thursday 22 August

Luanda/Flight/Luanda

Arrival early in the morning, meeting with Kanaga Africa Tours staff, assistance with the exchange of Euros and the possible purchase of a local phone card. Day dedicated to transfer to the south with an internal Taag flight. Depending on the scheduled time, visits can be made to LUANDA or LUBANGO (city tour including the statue of Christ the King). Lunch in a restaurant. Accommodation at Kimbo do Soba Lodge or similar and overnight in double rooms with services.

Day 3 - Friday 23 August

Lubango/Chibia/Lubango

Breakfast at the hotel and a day dedicated to discovering one of Angola's most iconic and decorated tribes, the MUILA (also known as Huila or Mumuhuila). We visit the community of Kamuviu, where we meet the 'Muila of the plains': we greet the Soba (local chief) and his many wives. Mainly farmers, the older generations continue to worship the bull god, although cattle breeding is no longer a key element in their economy. Continuation to the small colonial town of CHIBIA, formerly Joao d'Almeida. Lunch in a restaurant and short walk to the neo-Baroque style church. From Chibia we head to the Mukuma area to meet the more conservative 'mountain Muila'. Stroll through the market where we will meet fully decorated women intent on bargaining for traditional wooden tribal dolls and nyianeka textiles. Return to Lubango and overnight at the hotel.



Welcome to Angola!



Christ the King in Lubango



Muila Girl



Muila Hairstyles



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Days 4 to 6 - from Saturday 24 August to Monday 26 August

Lubango/Oncocua/Lubango

Breakfast at the hotel and departure for ONCOCUA, ideally located to meet the country's most traditional tribal groups. Here we will explore the 6 ethnic groups that populate the area:

- TUA, semi-nomadic hunter-gatherers of San origin, now sheep breeders, influenced by the arrival of the Bantu (the women no longer use the skins of prey as skirts, but follow the 'Himba fashion');
- HAKAONA (also called Muhacaona, or 'Black Himba'), renowned healers and craftsmen, the women have solid hairstyles made by mixing animal dung, fat and plants;
- MUHIMBA, semi-nomadic herders living near the Cunene* river between Angola and Namibia, are the most respected group because of their large herds;
- CUIS, a small minority of hunter-gatherers, who lived mainly in caves dug into the rock and produced cave paintings;
- GAMBUE, farmers who migrated some 80 years ago from the Huila plateau to work the fields for the Portuguese settlers who settled in the area;
- DIMBA, dedicated to cattle breeding and speaking the Herero language, characterised by their complex female hairstyles**.

Two nights in double igloo tents in Oncocua, full board. Returning on the third day to Lubango, accommodation at Kimbo do Soba Lodge or similar and overnight in double rooms with services.

* If the Himba camp is not far from the river, we will also make a diversion to admire the Cunene.

** With a bit of luck you can meet Dimba women at the Oncocua market.



Muhimba hairstyle



Hakaona Woman



Muhimba Children



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Day 7 - Tuesday 27 August

Lubango/Mungongo Oasis/Namibe

Breakfast at the hotel and descent from the plateau to the famous SERRA DE LEBA pass, surely the most iconic panoramic view in Angola. A simple lunch at the Manguairas market, where we can meet the CUBAL or Mucubal people, whose women wear headscarves called ompotas and use belts to tighten their breasts, called oyonduthi. In the afternoon we continue to the MUNGONGO OASIS, inside the NAMIB DESERT. We visit the local community, formed by the UMBUNDU people who settled in this fertile oasis in the middle of Africa's oldest desert. Continuation to NAMIBE, remarkable for its colonial architecture, accommodation at the Infotour Hotel or similar and overnight stay in double rooms with services.



Serra de Leba



Cubal woman with characteristic *ompota*

Day 8 - Wednesday 28 August

Namibe/Arco/Tombwa

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure for the CUROCA AND ARCO OASIS, among spectacular canyons, natural landscapes and impressive specimens of *welwitshia mirabilis*. Picnic lunch. We continue to the coast where we admire the abandoned Diogo Cao church and the colonial town of TOMBWA. Accommodation at the Hotel IU or similar and overnight stay in double rooms with services.



Canyon of Curoca

Day 9 - Thursday 29 August

Tombwa/Baia dos Tigres/Tombwa

Breakfast at the hotel and entry into the IONA PARK, where we make an initial stop to admire the Vanessa wreck. Proceeding along the shoreline, we can admire the majestic dunes of the Iona Desert, which plunge into the Atlantic Ocean, creating a wall of sand some 40 kilometres long. The ochre and yellow streaks of sand are reminiscent of a tiger's coat, hence the exotic name BAIA DOS TIGRES. Picnic lunch and continuation to the south depending on the tides. Time dedicated to exploring the bay, where flamingos, seals and turtles can often be spotted. If sea conditions permit, a boat trip can be organised to ILHA DOS TIGRES, some ten kilometres off the coast, and the ghost town of Sao Martinho, once a thriving fishing town, where the remains of a church, houses and the factory where the fish was canned are now abandoned. Return at the end of the afternoon to Tombwa and overnight at the hotel.



Abandoned church



Wreck along the beach

Day 10 - Friday 30 August

Tombwa/Lubango/Luanda

Breakfast at the hotel and departure in the direction of GARGANTA, an ancient Portuguese settlement with a railway station. Here we will meet the NGUENDELENGO tribe, a small group of semi-nomadic hunters and subsistence farmers, recognisable by their conspicuous rounded locks of both men and women. Continue on to Lubango, lunch en route and stop to admire the spectacular scenery of TUNDA VALA. Transfer to the airport in time for the evening flight to Luanda. Upon arrival in the capital, transfer to Hotel Ilha Mar or similar and overnight in double rooms with services.



Colonial architecture in Namibe



Tunda Vala

Day 11 - Saturday 31 August

Luanda

Breakfast and visit of the historic centre of LUANDA, allowing us to admire the urban contrasts of this vibrant African metropolis. We stroll from Cuban Heroes Square to the Grand Hotel, passing the colonial hospital and a former slave traders' house (now converted into the Museum of Anthropology) on Friedrich Engel Street. From there we continue to Luanda's oldest alleyway, Merchant Street, dating back to the early 17th century and characterised by beautiful murals and decadent colonial houses, and reach the baroque-style Nossa Senhora dos Remedios Cathedral, close to the headquarters of Sonangol (Angola's largest state-owned oil company), and end the city tour at the *Palacio de Ferro*, designed by Gustave Eiffel. Day use rooms on request. Transfer to the airport in time for your return flight, end of services.



Luanda and its contrasts

Day 12 - Sunday 01 September

Luanda (LAD)/Return flight

Arrival at the destination airport.



Murals in the streets of the capital

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**Individual participation fee in double room
(min. 6/max. 12 pax)**

4,190 €/pax

**in promotion at € 4,090
for booking before 21/05/2024**

**in promotion at € 3,990
for booking before 21/04/2024**

Supplements:

- Enrollment fee: **free!**
- Single room*: **390 €**
- Single tent only: **60 €**
- Day use in Luanda: **150 €/room**
- Extra airport transfer: **50 €/person/transfer**
- Domestic flights Luanda/Lubango/Luanda: **150 €**

** Twin rooms are not available in the country, except in the capital.*

The fee includes:

- English speaking tour leader;
- English/Portuguese speaking local guides;
- Visits and excursions as scheduled;
- Transfers by minibus and 4x4 to the south (maximum 3 clients/car), including drivers, fuel and tolls;
- Meals as mentioned in the itinerary;
- Cook and camp kitchen for bivouac meals;
- Tents and camping equipment (except sleeping bags);
- 9 overnight stays as mentioned in the itinerary (6 in hotels, 3 in igloo tents).

The fee does not include:

- The visa for Angola;
- Insurance for cancellation, health, luggage;
- Air flights;
- Drinks and mineral water;
- Meals not included in the itinerary;
- Airport/hotel transfers and vice versa at times other than those recommended;
- The boat trip to Ilha dos Tigres (to be organised locally only if sea conditions permit);
- Photographic tips;
- Tips and expenses of a personal nature
- Everything mentioned in 'Supplements';
- Anything not expressly mentioned in "the fee includes".